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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/903,939	07/12/2001	Su-Cheng Pai	B-4157 618733-9	1982	
75	590 03/24/2004		EXAM	INER	
Kam C. Louie			CROSS, LATOYA I		
c/o LADAS & I Suite 2100	PARKY		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
5670 Wilshire I			1743		
Los Angeles, C	CA 90036-5679		DATE MAILED: 03/24/200	4	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary Examiner				
Examiner LaToya I. Cross 1743 - The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address - Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 3 TCFR 1.138(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filled after 13X (6) MONTH'S from the making date than the provisions of 3 TCFR 1.138(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filled after 13X (6) MONTH'S from the making date of the considered timely. If No pariod for reply is specified above, the making date and the statutory milintum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If No pariod for reply is a period above, the making date of the statutory milintum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If No pariod for reply is a period above, the making date of the statutory milintum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If No pariod for reply is a period above, the making date of the communication. If No pariod for reply is a period above, the making date of the communication (40) and pariod for reply villed. If No pariod for reply is a period above, the making date of the communication. If No pariod for reply is a period above, the making date of the communication. If No pariod is FINAL. If No pariod for the application is one of the making date of the communication, even if timely filled, may reduce any reduce any reduced to the application of the pariod of the p	·	Applicant(s)	Application No.	
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* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.			reau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	application from the International Bu
		received.	list of the certified copies no	* See the attached detailed Office action for a
Attachment(s) 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)		Summary (PTO-413)	A) Interview	* *
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Paper No(s)/Mail Date		s)/Mail Date	Paper No	Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) Other:	52)			

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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

- 1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-12, drawn to a liquid take-up device, classified in class 422, subclass 100.
 - II. Claims 13-18, drawn to a method for chemical analysis, classified in class 436, subclass 165.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

- 2. Inventions I and II are related as process and apparatus for its practice. The inventions are distinct if it can be shown that either: (1) the process as claimed can be practiced by another materially different apparatus or by hand, or (2) the apparatus as claimed can be used to practice another and materially different process. (MPEP § 806.05(e)). In this case, the apparatus may be used in a materially different process, such as in storing or transferring a liquid sample.
- 3. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
- 4. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

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Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

5. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LaToya I. Cross whose telephone number is 571-272-1256.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jill A. Warden can be reached on 571-272-1267. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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March 22, 2004

Supervisory Patent Examiner Technology Center 1700